

**Prairie Spirit is on Twitter** 

@prairiespiritsd #pssdlearn

Prairie Spirit Trustees Larry Pavloff (left) and Sam Dyck (right) joined Don Morgan, Minister of Education, and MLA Nancy Heppner at a sod-turning event in Warman on September 11, 2015.



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## Two sod-turning events in Prairie Spirit School Division

Sod-turning ceremonies for two new schools in Prairie Spirit School Division were held on Friday, September 11. These ceremonies marked the start of the construction phase for new elementary schools in Martensville and Warman.

The schools will be joint-use P3 (public/private partnership) schools. Catholic schools will share these school facilities as part of Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools.

The schools in Martensville and Warman were part of the Premier's announcement of 18 new schools in October 2013.

"Prairie Spirit has been part of the planning for new schools in Martensville and Warman for two years," said Larry Pavloff, Board Chair, at the sod-turning event. "The start of con-

struction of these schools is truly a cause for celebration."

Don Morgan, Minister of Education, and Nancy Heppner, Minister of Highways and MLA for the Martensville constituency, were both on hand for the special event. Grade 6 students from Valley Manor Elementary School and Grade 5 students from Venture Heights Elementary School participated in the ceremony in Martensville, while Grade 6 students from Warman Community Middle School joined the ceremony in War-

The elementary schools are scheduled to be opened for students in fall 2017.

### Capital projects update

The Board of Education received a capital projects update at the Board's meeting on Tuesday, September 8.

The report included an update on the Martensville High School construction and renovation project. The construction of the new addition is almost complete, with students expected to move into the new addition by the end of October.

The extensive renovation of the existing high school building is underway and will take another year to complete.

Site work for both of the **new elementary schools** in Warman and Martensville is underway.

Three new portables will be added to Valley Manor Elementary School in Martensville. One of these relocatables was ready for the start of the new school year with the other two relocatables scheduled to be occupied in October. A reloctable for Venture Heights Elementary School in Martensville is also expected to be ready for students in October.

Prairie Spirit had a number of emergent projects underway throughout the summer. At Hanley Composite School, the entire elementary, central core and high school corridors

> have been structurally restored. The only area that remains to be restored is the mezzanine. In the central core and high school wings, electric heat has been replaced with a boiler system.

At Aberdeen Composite School, four closed classrooms are under construction. Six classrooms will remain open with temporary shoring.

Structural restoration of the high school entrance, which was damaged during a severe thunderstorm in July, is almost complete. Extensive repairs to the school's roof have required the use of a crane.

cent exterior entrance are virtually complete. The restoration of the elementary wing adjacent to the gym is virtually complete.

Structural work on the mezzanine at Delisle Composite School is complete.

John Kuzbik, Director of Education, noted that the magnitude of the projects currently underway in the Division is "overwhelming." Kuzbik commended the Facilities staff for the good work they are doing throughout the Division.

"The work is really impressive," he said. He also acknowledged the Board's leadership in conducting structural reviews of some of the Division's older schools to ensure the safety of staff and students.

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### 2015/16 enrolment

Early enrolment figures show another year of enrolment growth for Prairie Spirit School Division. The official enrolment for Ministry purposes will be finalized as of September 30, 2015.

This represents the tenth consecutive year of enrolment growth in the school division. When the school division was formed through amalgamation in 2006, the student enrolment was almost 8900. As of September 30, 2014, the school division's enrolment was 10,400.

### **Prairie Spirit represented in provincial PD**

The Board recognized and thanked the following Prairie Spirit administrators for their leadership at recent provincial professional development events:

# Saskatchewan Educational Leadership Unit (SELU) Principals' Short Course (University of Saskatchewan, July) Keynote:

- Noel Roche, Learning Superintendent
- Scott Dyck, Principal, Warman Elementary School
- Lori Jeschke, Learning Superintendent

#### **Presentations:**

- Tracey Young, Learning Superintendent
- Paul McTavish, Principal, Colonsay School
- Chris Mason, Principal, Waldheim School
- Bruce Mellesmoen, Vice Principal, Hepburn School

# **LEADS Summer Short Course (Waskesiu, August)**Co-presenters:

- Tracey Young, Learning Superintendent
- Laura Prefontaine, Principal, Langham Elementary School

"Prairie Spirit was very well represented at these events this summer," said John Kuzbik, Director of Education. "We appreciate the leadership demonstrated by these Prairie Spirit administrators and their willingness to share with other educators in the province."



Larry Pavloff, Board Chair, addressing the crowd at the sod-turning event in Warman on September 11.



John Kuzbik, Director of Education, greeting students from Venture Heights Elementary School at the sod-turning event in Martensville on September 11.

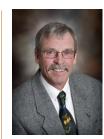
### **Prairie Spirit Board of Education**



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Blaine Lake
Laird
Leask
Waldheim
Green Leaf, Riverbend
and Leask Colonies



Subdivision 2
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Hague
Rosthern



Subdivision 3 Ken Crush Borden Langham



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Subdivision 11
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Shantelle Watson Mistawasis First Nation

The purpose of the *Board of Education Highlights* newsletter is to inform Prairie Spirit staff about the work of the Board of Education and its impact on student learning and staff supports. The newsletter is typically distributed to all staff members following the first Board meeting of each month.